

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 11 are pending. Claims 12 to 15 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 to 11 have been amended to correct various formalities. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 2, and 11 have been amended to correct certain objections. Reconsideration of the claim objections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

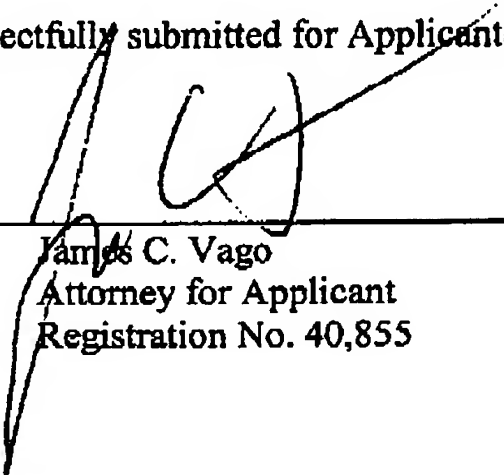
The Office Action has rejected the claims over WO 99/23910, contending that the claims are anticipated. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the '910 publication does not teach that there is a second grip portion having an ovoid cross-section. For example, the ridges 22 shown in Fig. 1 are shown as straight which would tend to indicate a flat rather ovoid cross-section (see Fig. 5 of the present application showing an ovoid cross-section). This can be contrasted to Fig. 1 of the present application which illustrates ridges 7 as having a curved shape that conforms to the ovoid cross-section.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted for Applicants,

By

  
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